

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
PANCANAL
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 110461

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, PN

SUBJECT:U.S.-PANAMA TREATY NEGOTIATIONS: WEEKLY ACTIVITIES
REPORT - MAY 7 - MAY 13

1. MAY ROUND. FOLLOWING THREE NEGOTIATING SESSIONS IN
WASHINGTON MAY 9-11, PANAMANIAN NEGOTIATORS ROMULO ESCOBAR
BETHANCOURT AND ARISTIDES ROYO (MINISTER OF EDUCATION)
RETURNED TO PANAMA FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH GENERAL TORRIJOS
ON THE PROPOSALS WHICH THE UNITED STATES NEGOTIATORS MADE
MAY 11 ON LANDS AND WATERS, NEUTRALITY, THE SHAPE OF THE
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ENTITY AND EMPLOYEE RIGHTS. AMBASSADOR LEWIS INFORMED THE
U.S. SIDE THAT THE PANAMANIAN NEGOTIATORS WOULD BE
RETURNING TO CONTINUE THE ROUND ON MAY 16.

2. U.S. POSITION ON ECONOMIC ARRANGEMENTS. THE INTERAGENCY
WORKING GROUP MET FOR THREE DAYS TO DRAFT A PROPOSED
POSITION ON ECONOMIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE U.S. NEGOTIATORS.

THE GROUP'S PAPER PROPOSES OPTIONS FOR AN ANNUITY TO PANAMA BASED ON THE LEVEL OF TRAFFIC TRANSITING THE CANAL.

3. AMBASSADOR JORDEN'S CONSULTATIONS. AMBASSADOR JORDEN WAS HERE ON CONSULTATION AND HAD A HEAVY SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS THIS WEEK IN BOTH THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE

BRANCHES. HIS CONSULTATIONS HAVE BEEN EXTENDED INTO NEXT WEEK BECAUSE OF THE CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS.

4. AMBASSADOR LEWIS' ACCREDITATION. ARA/PAN HAS PREPARED A MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT WITH A PROPOSED REPLY TO AMBASSADOR LEWIS' REMARKS WHEN HE PRESENTS HIS CREDENTIALS TO PRESIDENT CARTER ON MONDAY, MAY 16, AT 2:30. ARA/PAN IS ALSO ARRANGING COURTESY CALLS FOR LEWIS WITH SENIOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS.

5. SEN. GRAVEL'S PANAMA STUDY. DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED FROM SEN. GRAVEL (D-ALASKA) A COPY OF STUDY PREPARED BY HIS STAFF ANALYZING ECONOMIC AND MILITARY SIGNIFICANCE OF EXISTING LOCK CANAL AND RECOMMENDING THAT CONGRESS AUTHORIZE ARMY ENGINEERS TO UPDATE 1970 USG SEA-LEVEL CANAL STUDY TO DETERMINE CURRENT FEASIBILITY OF CONSTRUCTING SEA-LEVEL CANAL. WE PLAN TO COORDINATE ANY RESPONSE WITH DOD, JCS AND ARMY WHICH HAVE ALSO RECEIVED COPIES OF THE STUDY.

6. CONSERVATIVE CAUCUS POSTPONES TRIP. A VISIT TO PANAMA PLANNED FOR MAY 27-29 BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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CONSERVATIVE CAUCUS HAS BEEN POSTPONED. THE DELEGATION, WHICH WOULD BE LED BY NEW HAMPSHIRE GOVERNOR MELDRIM THOMPSON (A REPUBLICAN), IS NOW CONSIDERING A DATE IN MID-JUNE. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 14-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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